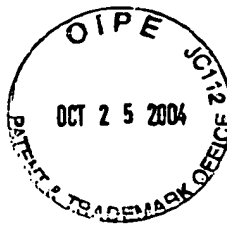


HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400



Docket No.: 10004560-1
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Tom Milner et al.

Application No.: 09/846,645

Art Unit: 2182

Filed: May 1, 2001

Examiner: J. D. Schneider

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR
IDENTIFICATION OF DEVICES
ASSOCIATED WITH INPUT/OUTPUT PATHS

RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION

MS AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated August 24, 2004 (Paper No. 20040819)
(hereinafter "Final Action"), finally rejecting claims 1-20, please amend the above-identified
U.S. patent application as follows:

No Amendments are Being Made to the Claims, but a complete listing of claims
begins on page 4 of this paper for the Examiner's convenience.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.